

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 MC-01 L-02 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 FAA-00 CAB-02 DOTE-00 NSC-05

COME-00 H-01 /035 W

----- 003525

R 271453Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0951

INFO AMCONUSUL CAPETOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 5137

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, SF, US

SUBJ: LEASE OF SAFAIR AIRCRAFT TO AIA

REF: STATE 249401

1. SAFAIR MANAGING DIRECTOR, ANTON LOMBARD, TOLD EMBOFF NOVEMBER 27 THAT COMPANY HAD CONCLUDED ARRANGEMENTS LEASE TWO SAFAIR L-100 HERCULES AIRCRAFT TO ALASKA INTERNATIONAL AIR. ONE PLANE DELIVERED TO AIA CREW THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AND LEFT FOR US SAME DATE. OTHER SCHEDULED DEPART EVENING NOVEMBER 27. AIRCRAFT DRY-LEASED I.E., AIA WILL PROVIDE CREWS AND MAINTENANCE. BOTH HAVE BEEN TAKEN OFF SOUTH AFRICAN AIR REGISTRY AND RE-REGISTERED IN US. ACCORDING TO TERMS OF CONTRACT, IF EITHER RENDERED INOPERABLE DURING PERIOD AIA LEASE, AIA WILL REPLACE WITH NEW AIRCRAFT ON WHICH AIA HAS OPTION FOR LATE 1975 DELIVERY.

2. LOMBARD EMPHASIZED THAT SAFAIR DID NOT SEEK MINISTRY OF DEFENSE APPROVAL FOR LEASE OF AIRCRAFT. HE SAID CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS INVOLVED STRAIGHT COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN SAFAIR AND AIA BUT THAT SAFAIR HAD ADVISED "APPROPRIATE" SAG
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OFFICIALS OF WHAT IT INTENDED DO IN ORDER OBTAIN APPROVAL

REMOVE AIRCRAFT FROM SOUTH AFRICAN REGISTRY. MAINTAINED,
HOWEVER, THAT SAFAIR, NOT SAG, MADE DECISION TO LEASE PLANES.

3. LOMBARD ALSO SAID THAT SAFAIR GLAD TO BE ABLE ASSIST WITH
WHAT HE KNEW TO BE PRIORITY AMERICAN PROJECT. HE SAID THAT
LOSS OF AIRCRAFT WOULD PUT STRAIN ON REMAINING FLEET OF THREE
L-100S BUT THAT DELIVERY WITHIN NEXT THREE WEEKS OF TWO ADDI-
TIONAL MACHINES FROM LOCKHEED GEORGIA WOULD ALLEVIATE PROBLEM.
HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT AIA HAD AGREED LEAVE SAFAIR MARKINGS ON
LEASED AIRCRAFT IN ORDER SATISFY HIS (LOMBARD'S) DESIRE "SHOW
THE FLAG" IN INTERNATIONAL VENTURE OF IMPORT TO ENTIRE WESTERN
WORLD.

4. COMMENT: LOMBARD'S COMMENTS IN PARA 3 HAD NO ELEMENT OF
IRONY. HE IS RATHER SOLEMN TYPE. END COMMENT

5. ACTION REQUESTED: AF/S WILL DOUBTLESS WISH INFORM SENATOR
STEVENS' OFFICE IN VIEW HIS TELEGRAPHIC INQUIRY OF NOVEMBER 4.
HURD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: AIRCRAFT, LEASES
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 27 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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